Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 JUSE-00 FTC-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 /111 W

-----013532 150545Z/11

R 131035Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2751 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, ECOSOC, UN, IN

SUBJECT: ECOSOC WORKING GROUP ON CORRUPT PRACTICES

REF: STATE 171038

- 1. EMBOFF PRESENTED POINTS IN REFTEL TO A. GHOSE, DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE UN DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. GHOSE NOTED THAT GOI HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE WORKING GROUP ONLY BECAUSE IT HAD NOT WISHED TO JOIN (IN JANUARY 1978) IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GROUP'S DELIBERATIONS. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT WAS NONETHELESS INTERESTED IN THE GROUP'S WORK AND WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BECOME MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED AS THE PROPOSAL MOVED TOWARDS COMPLETION.
- 2. ON THE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF AN ECOSOC RESOLUTION AT THIS SESSION CALLING FOR A CONFERENCE IN 1979, GHOSE THOUGHT -- WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO REVIEW HER FILES -- THAT THE RESULTS OF THE CORRUPT PRACTICES WORKING GROUP WERE TO BE REFERRED TO THE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION COMMISSION (I.E. AT ITS 1979 SESSION), IN ORDER FOR THE COMMISSION TO CONSIDER ITS RELEVANCE TO THE COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUP ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT. SHE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDERSTOOD WORK ON A CODE WAS MOVING ALONG AND THAT THREE MORE SESSIONS OF THAT WORKING GROUP WOULD BE HELD BEFORE THE SPRING OF 79.

3. GHOSE PERSONALLY PREFERRED THIS COURSE OF ACTION BE-CAUSE FIRST, SOME SUBSTANTIVE COORDINATION BY TNC COMMISSION SEEMED REASONABLE; AND SECOND, TWO SIMULTANEOUS SETS OF NEGO- TIATIONS IN THE AREA OF TNC'S WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO BACKSTOP.

- 4. EMBOFF ARGUED THAT, GIVEN THE PROGRESS TO DATE IN THE CORRUPT PRACTICES WORKING GROUP AND THE APPARENT CONSENSUS APPROACH THAT IS DEVELOPING ON THE SUBJECT, IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE FOR FURTHER WORK TO BE DELAYED BY ONE YEAR AWAITING THE TNC COMMISSION REVIEW. GHOSE REPLIED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO REASON TO HALT FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF A CORRUPT PRACTICES TREATY--WHICH SHE FORESAW MIGHT WELL BE SEPARATE FROM THE CODE--DURING THE INTERIM, WITH RAPID MOVEMENT TOWARDS A CONFERENCE ON THE BASIS OF THE TNC COMMISSION DECISION.
- 5. COMMENT: WE WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE GOING BACK TO TRY AGAIN WITH GHOSE IF DEPARTMENT WISHES TO PROVIDE FURTHER ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF AN ECOSOC DECISION AT THIS SESSION. GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: CORRUPTION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 13 jul 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE10716
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780290-0470 Format: TEL

From: NEW DELHI Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780764/aaaacbzq.tel

Line Count: 78 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 2351da75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION L

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 STATE 171038

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2021349 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ECOSOC WORKING GROUP ON CORRUPT PRACTICES

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To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2351da75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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